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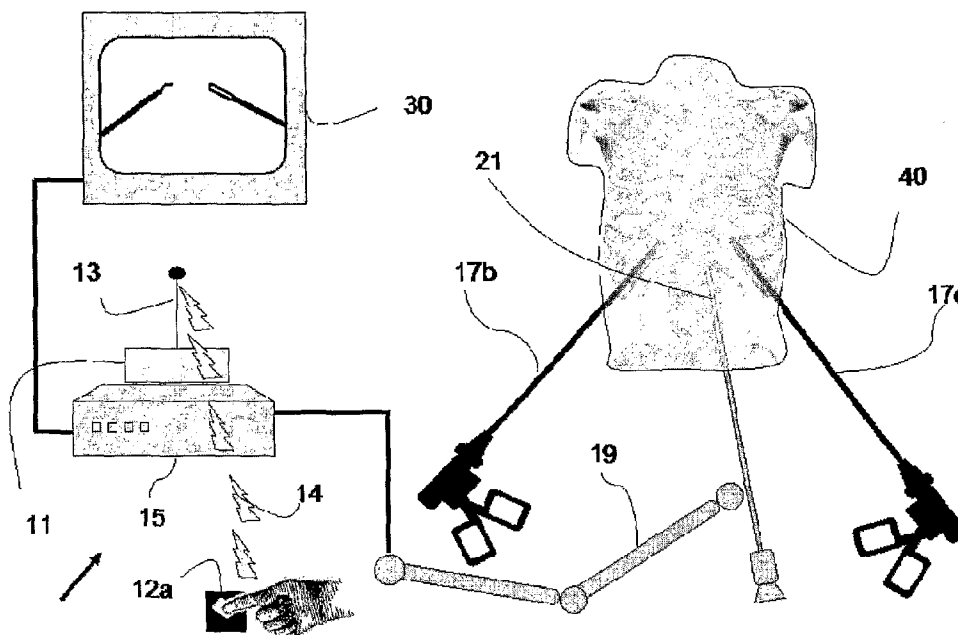
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MEANS AND METHODS OF IMPROVING LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY



(57) Abstract: An improved interface between the surgeon and an endoscope system for laparoscopic surgery, holding a laparoscopic came and/or controlling an automated endoscope assistant includes at least one wireless transmitter with at least one operating key (12a). at least one wireless receiver (11), at least one conventional laparoscopy computerized system (15) loaded with conventional surgical instrument spatial location software, and conventional automated assistant maneuvering software, software loaded onto to the conventional laparoscopy system that enables a visual response to the depression of at least one key on the wireless transmitter as well as an interface with the conventional automated assistant maneuvering software so as to achieve movement of the endoscope, and at least one video screen (30)

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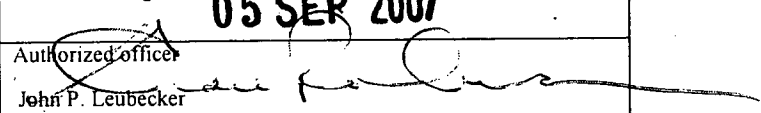
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL06/00478

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: A61B 1/00(2006.01) USPC: 600/102 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 600/102 118; 606/130 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004/0204627 A1 (FURUKAWA) 14 October 2004, see Figures 1-4 and paragraphs [0066] and [0083].	1-4
X	US 6,024,695 A (TAYLOR et al) 15 February 2000, see Figure 10, col.19, lines 10-52.	1,6-8
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
Date of the actual completion of the international search 17 July 2007 (17.07.2007)		Date of mailing of the international search report 05 SEP 2007
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201		Authorized officer:  John P. Leubecker Telephone No. (571) 272-2975

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL06/00478

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 5 and 9-23
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
Please See Continuation Sheet
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

- Remark on Protest**
- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ☐ | The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee. |
| ☐ | The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation. |
| ☐ | No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees. |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IL06/00478

Continuation of Box II Reason 2:

Claims 5 and 9-21 are so unclear that no meaningful search could be done. Claim 5 includes multiple terms that lack antecedent basis, making it unclear as to what is intended to be encompassed by this claim. Furthermore, it is not clear what the sliding and rotating direction finders encompass since the specification fails to explicitly describe what these elements are. Claim 9 recites no method steps to search. Claims 10-23 refer to multiple terms which lack antecedent basis making it unclear as to what method steps are intended to be encompassed by these claims.